



Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division
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Jim Lynch, Director
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SENATE HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION	
EXHIBIT NO.	<u>1</u>
DATE:	<u>2-15-07</u>
BILL NO.	<u>HB-122</u>

Testimony House Bill 122

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, for the record my name is Debbie Alke, Administrator, MDT Aeronautics Division. Thank you Rep. Keane.

MDT supports HB 122 as it will increase the lease term allowed on state-owned or operated airports from current law of 10-years to a maximum term of 40-years.

MDT does operate 15 airports located throughout the state and this provision will make airport property more attractive to potential hangar owners.

Municipal airports previously amended its statute to allow for a 40-year term and this will make all public use airports in the state consistent with lease terms.

A 40-year lease is much more attractive to financial institutions and hangar owners than the current 10-year term.

I ask for your support of HB122 and am happy to answer any questions from the committee.